

CHARACTERS' LONELINESS DEPICTED IN *THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PAJAMAS* NOVEL

THESIS



BY :

ELYSA NOY

REG. NUMBER: A73216060

ENGLISH DEPARTMENT

FACULTY OF ARTS AND HUMANITIES

UIN SUNAN AMPEL SURABAYA

2019

DECLARATION

I am the undersigned below:

Name : Elysa Noy

NIM : A73216060

Department : English

Faculty: Arts and Humanities

University : UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya

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Who makes the statement

 
Elysa Noy

APPROVAL SHEET

CHARACTERS' LONELINESS DEPICTED IN *THE BOY IN THE STRIPED PAJAMAS* NOVEL

By:

Elysa Noy

Reg. Number: A73216060

Approved to be examined by the Board of Examiners, English Department,
Faculty of Arts and Humanities, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya

Surabaya, December 12th, 2019

Thesis Advisor



Sufi Ikrima Sa'adah, M.Hum
NUP. 201603318

Acknowledged by:



Dr. Wahyu Kusumajanti, M.Hum
NIP. 197002051999032002

EXAMINER SHEETS

This thesis has been approved and accepted by the Board of Examiners, English Department, Faculty of Arts and Humanities, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya on

Board of Examiners :

Examiner 1



Sufi Ikrima Sa'adah, M.Hum
NUP.201603318

Examiner 2



Dr. Wahyu Kusumajanti, M.Hum
NIP.197002051999032002

Examiner 3



Abu Fanani, M.Pd
NIP.196906152007011051

Examiner 4



Suhandoko, MPd
NIP.198905282018011002

Acknowledged by:

The Dean of Faculty of Arts and Humanities

UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya



Dr. H. Agus Aditoni, M.Ag
NIP.196210021992031001



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UNIVERSITAS ISLAM NEGERI SUNAN AMPEL SURABAYA
PERPUSTAKAAN**

Jl. Jend. A. Yani 117 Surabaya 60237 Telp. 031-8431972 Fax.031-8413300
E-Mail: perpus@uinsby.ac.id

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Nama : ELYSA NOY
NIM : A73216060
Fakultas/Jurusan : ADAB DAN HUMANIORA / SASTRA INGGRIS
E-mail address : noy2xx@yahoo.com

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ABSTRACT

Noy, E. (2019). *Characters' Loneliness in The Boy in The Striped Pajamas Novel*. English Department, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Advisor: Sufi Ikrima Sa'adah, M.Hum.

Keywords: psychology, loneliness.

This study aims to discuss loneliness issues in ‘The Boy in The Striped Pajamas’ novel. This study then reveals several reasons that could create loneliness and ways to overcome it. This study focuses on three research questions, they are;

(1) How does characters' loneliness depict in *TBiTSP* novel?, (2) How does reasons of characters loneliness depict in *TBiTSP* novel?, (3) How does the characters overcome their loneliness in *TBiTSP* novel?

Qualitative method is chosen to be used in this research. This study also used new criticism as the tools for analysis. Another tool used is a psychological approach. The psychological approach used is a theory about loneliness which covers the reasons and reactions towards it. Here, the researcher finds the quotations and narratives from the novel that suits the characteristics of loneliness based on the theory.

This study reveals that some of the reasons (dislocation, forced-isolation) and reactions (active solitude, social contact, sad passivity) towards loneliness based on the theory were found in the novel. Here, the reasons for loneliness for all characters are the same, they are: dislocation (moving out from Berlin) and forced isolation (live in *Out-With*). Whereas, the ways to overcome loneliness vary from positive to negative behaviors. For Bruno, the ways to overcome is positive behaviors includes; active solitude (reading adventure book, making a swing, and doing forbidden exploration) and social contact (having a good conversation with Gretel, having a deep conversation with Maria, having a conversation with Pavel, and making friend with Shmuel). For Gretel, the ways to overcome is also positive behaviors includes; social contact (being friend with Lieutenant Kotler) and active solitude (studying history and geography). Moreover, for Mother, the ways to overcome is negative behaviors, such as; sad passivity (sleeping all day and complaining all the time).

ABSTRAK

Noy, E. 2019. *Kesepian pada Karakter-Karakter dalam Novel The Boy inThe Striped Pajamas*. Program Studi Sastra Inggris, UIN Sunan Ampel Surabaya. Pembimbing: Sufi Ikrima Sa'adah, M.Hum.

Kata Kunci: psikologi, kesepian.

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk berdiskusi mengenai isu-isu kesepian pada novel 'The Boy in The Striped Pajamas'. Penelitian ini kemudian mengungkapkan beberapa alasan yang dapat menyebabkan kesepian dan cara-cara untuk menghadapinya. Penelitian ini berfokus pada tiga rumusan masalah, yaitu; (1) Bagaimana karakter-karakter yang mengalami kesepian digambarkan dalam novel *TBiTSP*?, (2) Bagaimana alasan-alasan dari kesepian pada karakter-karakter digambarkan dalam novel *TBiTSP*? (3) Bagaimana karakter-karakter menghadapi kesepian yang mereka alami dalam novel *TBiTSP*?

Metode kualitatif telah dipilih untuk digunakan dalam penelitian ini. Penelitian ini juga menggunakan new criticism sebagai alat untuk menganalisa. Alat lain yang digunakan adalah pendekatan psikologis. Pendekatan psikologis yang digunakan adalah teori tentang kesepian yang mana melingkupi penyebab dan reaksi-reaksi terhadap hal tersebut. Disini, peneliti menemukan kutipan-kutipan dan narasi-narasi dari novel yang cocok dengan karakteristik-karakteristik kesepian berdasarkan teori.

Penelitian ini mengungkapkan bahwa beberapa alasan-alasan dari kesepian (dislokasi, isolasi-paksa) dan reaksi-reaksi (kemandirian aktif, kontak sosial, kesedihan pasif) terhadap kesepian berdasarkan teori ditemukan dalam novel. Disini, alasan-alasan dari kesepian pada seluruh karakter adalah sama, yaitu; pindah dari Berlin dan tinggal di *Out-With*. Sedangkan, reaksi-reaksi terhadap kesepian bervariasi dari perilaku aktif sampai ke perilaku pasif. Untuk Bruno, reaksinya adalah kebiasaan positif termasuk; kemandirian aktif (membaca buku petualangan, membuat ayunan, dan melakukan eksplorasi terlarang) dan kontak sosial (mengobrol secara baik dengan Gretel, mengobrolkan pembicaraan yang dalam dengan Maria, mengobrol dengan Pavel, dan berteman dengan Shmuel). Untuk Gretel, reaksinya juga positif, meliputi; kontak sosial (berteman dengan Letnan Kotler) dan kemandirian aktif (belajar sejarah dan geografi). Selain itu, untuk Mother, reaksinya berupa kebiasaan negatif, seperti; kepasifan sedih (tidur sepanjang hari dan mengeluh sepanjang waktu).

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Many studies have discussed the issue of loneliness in literary work. The researcher had found some researchers that have made studies with the same theme, which is loneliness. First, Su'ud (2011) made research entitled Loneliness in

This research is different compared to some previous studies on the same topic. The researcher has made sure that some previous studies only cover one person in their research. As far as the researcher's knowledge, there has not been any research about loneliness which covers a various range of age, they are; children, teenagers, and adults. Therefore, this gap becomes the researcher's topic to discuss.

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In the presenting of the analysis, the researcher did the steps as follows:

- [illegible]

2.2 Psychological Approach

2.2.1 Loneliness

[illegible]

2.2.1.1 The Reasons for Loneliness

2.2.1.1.1 Being Unattached

2.2.1.1.2 Alienation

[illegible]

2.2.1.2.1 Sad Passivity

Rubeinsten and Shaver (1982, p.215) explained that sad passivity is an example of negative behavior that occurs after someone feels lonely. It means someone is become passive because of the loneliness. This can be found in the form of crying, sleeping, sitting and thinking, do nothing, overeating, taking tranquilizers and drinking or getting stoned.

Rubeinsten and Shaver (1982, p.215) believe that the positive impact of feeling lonely is active solitude. Here a person who experiences loneliness will choose positive activities. There are many positive activities in these worlds include; exercising, reading, writing, go watching a movie, listening to music, studying or working, walking, working on a hobby, and playing. This can make the person forget about being lonely and find happiness in themselves.

One of the ways for someone to get happiness even though he or she doesn't have anyone is by having fun. Spending money through shopping, for example, is one of the natural things that can make individuals feel happy and forget about their problem, said Rubeinsten & Shaver (1982, p.216). When

Praswanta (2016) analyzed loneliness in Mari Asai's character from *After the Dark* by Haruki Murakami. In this study, Praswanta analyzed the cause of loneliness and the effect of loneliness in Mari Asai's character. As a result, Mari Asai experienced loneliness because she got a lot of bad things at school and when she wants to talk about it with her parents, they seem busy and do not care about her feelings. Mari Asai is a character that describes how hard life is as a student in Japan. The effect of this loneliness made Mari Asai frustrated and chose to isolate herself during the day so she wouldn't have to make social contact with other humans and go to the cafe alone at night. She did social isolation because she is afraid to feel rejected. This research proves that culture could make impacts on someone's life.

Purnama (2016) has also analyzed about loneliness in a short story *A Clean Well Lighted Place* by Ernest Hemingway. In his research, he analyzed Old Men's character. This study focuses on portraying the cause and effects of loneliness. As a result, the caused of loneliness in this character is because he is growing old so that he lost his social contacts such as friends and lose of emotional support because of the dynamics of life. In the end, the character has done negative things such as spending the whole

ANALYSIS

3.1. The Descriptions of *TBiTSP*'s Characters

3.1.1 In Berlin

3.1.1.1 Bruno

[illegible]

and Daniel, “He only came up to their shoulders” (p.22).

Bruno was a victim of some bullies in his own house. Every time Gretel's friends visited the house, they mocked Bruno because of his height. Bruno was short compared to his friends. Bruno often gets bothered when Gretel's friends say, "Then why are you so small?" (p.22), or, "Bruno's not nine, he's only six" (p.22). All those verbal insults happened because of Bruno's height.

In his daily life, Bruno liked to spend his time with three friends from school named Karl, Daniel, and Martin. When Bruno realized he was leaving Berlin very soon, he only worried about leaving his best friends, “And what about Karl and Daniel and Martin? But they're my three best friends for life!” (p.7). In the end, Bruno still did not want to leave their best friends. However, he and his family are still moving out.

Besides spending time with his friends, Bruno also has some interests. Bruno is interested in the adventure world. "I like stories about knights and adventures and exploring" (p.99), this quotation showed that Bruno liked adventure and exploration. This interest came after his Grandmother, who liked to create a play, always invite him to become one of the actors, "... every Christmas and at every birthday party she would devise a small play for three of them to perform" (p.88).

Bruno has a very good attitude, such as polite. This was caused by his mother, who always told him to be respectful. When he deal with a bad situation, such as tired after school and found out Maria, the maid in his house, packed all of his private stuff from his room, Bruno still behaves in a good way, “... he asked in as polite a tone as he could muster for although he wasn't happy” (p.1). Bruno

was very well-spoken to everyone, included all the maid in his house, Maria and Pavel.

3.1.1.2 Gretel

As a first child born in the family, Gretel was Bruno's biological sister. She was the only daughter in her family. Here, even in the novel, the author did not mention her age directly in the beginning, but this quotation helped to figure out about Gretel's age, "Gretel was three years older than Bruno ..." (p.21). Since Bruno was mentioned as nine, and Gretel was three years older than him, it was concluded that Gretel was a 12-year-old girl in the novel.

Gretel has a nickname. Bruno often called her a Hopeless Case, "She's a Hopeless Case" (p.19). Gretel got the nickname because Bruno believes that she could only make trouble for him. Bruno even says that he would not feel bothered if Gretel was moving out of the house, "... she was a Hopeless Case and caused nothing but trouble for him" (p.3).

Like a girl of her age, Gretel has a typical girls' hobby. Gretel loves collecting dolls and putting it in a neat arrangement on the shelf, "She had a large collection of dolls positioned on shelves around her room..." (p.21). When the family was about to move to Out-With (a house in an isolated place near the concentration camp), Bruno asked whether she brings her dolls or not, and she replied with, "Of course I did" (p.23). Gretel really liked her dolls, she liked to play and even talked to her dolls like a living friend, "Bruno could hear her talking to her dolls in the room across the hall ..." (p.159).

Another example of Mother's good attitude was when Bruno mocks their neighbor in Berlin. Mother said, "You shouldn't laugh at poor Herr Roller, You have no idea what he's been through in his life" (p.68). Here, she told Bruno that even other people consider different, there is no excuse to laugh at them. Mother reminded Bruno that every person acts differently because they also experience different things. It can be concluded that Mother was also a wise figure.

Mother always knows what to do. When Bruno and Gretel got into a fight, Mother knew what to do, she ended the fight by saying, “Don't call your brother, an idiot, please” (p.117). Here, the quotation showed that Mother nurtures Bruno and Gretel in the best way possible. She tried to make her children understand that calling someone by inappropriate name was a bad thing to do.

Despite being in a high-ranking family who used to concern a lot about social class, Mother secretly had great empathy towards the lower class. Mother always told Bruno to respect Maria, even she just a maid, “his mother had always told him that he was to treat Maria respectfully and not just imitate the way father spoke to her” (p.1). She told Bruno that every person deserves respect from others no matter what their position was.

3.1.2.1 Bruno

After the move to *Out-With*, Bruno has a significant change in his attitude. There were two changes in Bruno's attitude. First, when he left Out-with, Bruno became irritable. Second, Bruno broke several rules since he lived out-with. whereas, when in Berlin, Bruno was a good child, polite and obedient. His change is explained below.

3.1.2.1 Bruno

After the move to *Out-With*, Bruno has a significant change in his attitude. There were two changes in Bruno's attitude. First, when he left Out-with, Bruno became irritable. Second, Bruno broke several rules since he lived out-with. whereas, when in Berlin, Bruno was a good child, polite and obedient. His change is explained below.

When he lived in *Out-With*, Bruno did not go to normal school, like what he did in Berlin. Father and mother brought teachers to teach Bruno and Gretel, her sister, at home. Bruno's teacher named Herr Liszt only gave lessons on history and geography. Bruno who wanted to learn something else then keeps asking until Herr Liszt was angry. Since then, Bruno's relationship with his teacher has deteriorated because Bruno has always denied the lesson he teaches. On the other side, Herr Liszt always showed anger when Bruno asked for other lessons. Further explanation about the bad relationship with Herr Liszt is written below.

The next change in attitude Bruno was he broke the rules. When he left outwith, Bruno started to talked more often with Maria, the maid, about everything including his feeling. Bruno also has a conversation with Pavel, another worker in his house, about what Pavel did before working as a waiter and cook in Bruno's

Bruno also violated another rule while living in *Out-With*. Bruno does forbidden exploration alone. In *Out-With*, no one could leave the house because the place was far from anywhere and was considered dangerous. Bruno, a 9-years-old boy, was not allowed to leave *Out-With* as he wishes. However, he kept doing it. Bruno did forbidden exploration. Also, in the forbidden exploration, Bruno secretly met a Jewish boy named Shmuel and decided to make friends with him. Although in the end, Bruno knew he could not have any contacts with Jews, Bruno did not care and keep playing with Shmuel. Further explanation about this friendship is describe below.

If in Berlin Gretel loved dolls so much that it made her talked with her dolls, in *Out-With* Gretel decides to throw away all the dolls. Gretel has a new hobby that is learning about history and geography. Not only enjoy learning, but Gretel's room also filled with newspaper clippings that are glued on the wall which contain news about what is progressing in German. Further explanation about Gretel's hobby is

describe below.

One time, when Father knows that Kotler's family left Germany because they did not like what German did to Jewish, Father was angry. However, Gretel suddenly stands for her friend, Lieutenant Kotler. In Berlin Gretel never disobeyed Father. Moreover, when Mother tried to remind Gretel to not follow the conversation, Gretel even denied Mother. This behavior will never occur if Gretel was still in Berlin. Further explanation will describe below.

Since the family lived in out-with, Mother also experienced a change in her attitude. In Berlin, Mother and Father never fought. But since living in *Out-With*, Mother often had arguments with Father. Both of them clashed with each other loudly until other people could hear it from outside the room. Further explanation is describe below.

behaviour is describe below.

[illegible]

In this novel, Bruno is portrayed as the character who experienced loneliness. It can be seen from his change behavior. Based on Berscheid and Reis (1998, p.197), Bruno experiences hostility as the indicators of loneliness. Here, hostility means get into a fight or not having a good relationship with someone. Bruno's hostility is expressed through his relationship with his homeschool teacher in *Out-With*, Herr Liszt. In the story, Bruno shows that he did not like Herr Liszt. Bruno did not like Herr Lizst because he only gave Bruno a lesson in history and geography, even though Bruno did not like the subject at all.

“Those things are useless to you,” insisted the teacher. “A sound understanding of the social sciences is far more important in this day and age.”

“something in his eyes made Bruno feel there was an anger inside him just waiting to get out”.(p.98)

When Bruno asked why there were no other lessons, Herr Liszt said that other lessons were not important. From here, Bruno feels sad and his relationship with Herr Liszt's relationship gets worse. This was made worse because Bruno denied Herr Liszt and asking about the importance of other lessons, "But aren't books important?" (p.98), and instead, Herr Liszt continued to pressure Bruno

Bruno's hostility may mean that he feels lonely because in Out-With he has to face different things than in Berlin. In Berlin, he can freely read his favorite books and his grandmother also support him. However, in Out-With, he feels like nobody supports him in having his favorite things, which is reading and art.

To strengthen the statement, Perlman and Peplau (1981, p.21) also linked loneliness with feelings of boredom. In the novel, Bruno experiences boredom because he has no one around his age to talk to inside the *Out-With*. For that reason, Bruno chooses to talk with Maria whose age is older than his. Maria is a maid in the house. Usually, Bruno never talks to Maria about something not related to her job as a maid. Since Bruno experiences loneliness of not having someone his age, Bruno has more conversation with Maria. Bruno talks about his feeling to Maria,

“He felt as if he was about to cry again but stopped himself, not wanting to look like a baby in front of Maria” (p.19). Through this act, Bruno shows a sense of dissatisfaction with his new life *Out-With*.

Another prove for boredom which leads to loneliness based on Perlman and Peplau (1981, p.21) is when he decided to have a conversation with Pavel. Pavel is a cook and waiter in the house. In Berlin, Bruno never talks to Pavel. After Bruno fell from the swing in *Out-With*, and Pavel helps to treat his wound, Bruno then has a conversation with Pavel. In Berlin, Bruno even did not pay attention to the existence of Pavel in the house, “Bruno had never laid eyes on him before ...” (p.83).

Bruno's boredom, which leads to loneliness based on Perlman and Peplau (1981, p.21), makes Bruno decided to become a friend with Shmuel. Shmuel is a nazi prisoner lived in the camp. Bruno finds Shmuel when he did forbidden exploration. For the first, Bruno did not know that Shmuel is Jewish. One day, he asks Gretel about why he can not go to the camp, "I don't understand why we're not allowed on the other side of it. What's so wrong with us that we can't go over there and play?" (p.182). Gretel told him that everyone who lived in the camp is Jewish and Bruno should not have any relationship with Jewish, "Jews, Bruno. Didn't you know that? That's why they have to be kept together. They can't mix with us." (p.183). Bruno did not care and he keeps visiting Shmuel every day. Here, Bruno feels bored for not having a friend of his age, thus he makes friends with a Jewish boy although it is forbidden for him.

In this novel, Gretel is also portrayed as a character who experienced loneliness. Gretel's loneliness is also caused by boredom. Boredom can lead to loneliness feeling, states Perlman and Peplau (1981, p.21). Gretel is bored because she did not have anyone around her age to play with when the family move to *OutWith*.

[illegible]

In this novel, Mother is the next character who experienced loneliness besides Bruno and Gretel. Perlman and Peplau (1981, p.21) states that unhappiness can be the source of loneliness. Mother is experiencing loneliness because she feels unhappy to lived in *Out-With*.

“It's horrible,” Mother was saying. “Just horrible. I can't stand it anymore.” (p.189). At the beginning of the story, Mother already shows how she is unhappy about moving out. Especially since she realized that she is going to move to a faraway place. Mother's expression of unhappiness occurs when she had a conversation with Bruno right before moving out.

“Oh my,” said Mother with a laugh, although it was a strange kind of laugh because she didn't look happy and turned away from Bruno as if she didn't want him to see her face. “Yes, Bruno,” she said. “It's more than a mile away.”

Quite a lot more than that, in fact.” (p.7)

Here it can be seen that Mother is unhappy. She made a strange laugh and an unhappy expression. Mother is trying to hide her face to cover up her feelings so that Bruno did not see her unhappy expression. But still, Bruno catches the unhappiness through her act strange act.

Another Mother's unhappiness is portrayed by the author through a narrative. As it explains before, unhappiness can caused loneliness Perlman and Peplau (1981, p.21). Here, the author describes the reason for Mother's unhappiness. There are several factors that caused mother feels unhappy which later lead her to feel lonely.

“Over the course of the next few weeks Mother seemed increasingly unhappy with life at Out-With and Bruno understood perfectly well why that might be. After all, when they'd first arrived he had hated it, due to the fact that it was nothing like home and lacked such things as three best friends for life. But that had changed for him over time, mostly due to Shmuel, who had become more important to him than Karl or Daniel or Martin had ever been. But Mother didn't have a Shmuel of her own. There was no one for her to talk to, and the only person who she had been remotely friendly with - the young Lieutenant Kotler - had been transferred somewhere else”. (p.187)

From the quotation above, the author describes Mother's unhappiness increases through the day they live in *Out-With*. After months, Mother still can not adapt to the new environment. Moreover, she feels more unhappy. The author describes through Bruno's point of view, Mother did not have a friend like Bruno

have Shmuel. Kotler, who used to have a conversation with the Mother is also moved somewhere else after made trouble with Father.

3.2. The Descriptions of Reasons for Characters' Loneliness

Here, the researcher discussed the reasons for loneliness experienced by three characters, they are; Bruno, Gretel, and Mother. The researcher link the reasons of loneliness directly with the theory of loneliness from Rubeinsten and Shaver (1982).

3.2.1. Dislocation

Rubeinsten and Shaver (1982, p.214) states that dislocation means the transfer of an individual or group to a new, unfamiliar environment. In this research, dislocation is one of the reasons for characters in *TBiTSP* novel experiencing loneliness. The dislocation in the novel is when the family is moving out of Berlin.

3.2.1.1 Moving Out from Berlin

Moving out was one of the beginnings that created loneliness feeling for the characters in the novel. Bruno, Gretel, and Mother are the characters who were feeling forced to leave Berlin, German, because their house was so lovely. The portrayal of this move was in the very first place which begins the whole story.

“Mother,” he insisted. ‘What’s going on? Are we moving?’” (p.2)

“What is?” he asked. “Am I being sent away?”

“No, not just you,” she said, looking as if she might smile for a moment but thinking better of it. “We all are. Your father and I, Gretel and you. All four of us” (p.3)

The quotations mention above are the conversations between Bruno and Mother in one evening after Bruno just got back from school. Bruno was asking Mother about what happened at the time because he saw uncommon activities in the house. Bruno saw Maria, the maid in the house, packed his stuff, and Lars, the butler in the house, packed Mother's stuff. Mother then explains to Bruno that everyone in the family will be moving out of Berlin.

The move in Bruno's family happened for a reason. When Bruno asks Mother why they would leave, Mother answered, "Your father's job", "You know how important it is, don't you?" (p.3). Mother told Bruno that the reason why they leave is because of something related to Father's job. Mother also added, "The man who employs him asks him to go somewhere else because there's a very special job that needs doing there" (p.4). The statements made by Mother explains the reason for the move clearly.

The move that was experienced by the family, is of course, not the best experience ever. Bruno was the character that shows his reluctance towards the move out of Berlin. When Bruno realized he would leave Berlin, Bruno was shocked. Many things were went through his head. One of his concerns was about his school in Berlin, “But what about school?” (p.7). Here, the first thing that he

asked Mother after knowing about the move was school. Bruno was worried about leaving his school.

Other than school, Bruno has another thing to worry about. He was most worried about his best friends, "And what about Karl and Daniel and Martin? How will they know where I am when we want to do things together?" (p.7). Bruno was even angry when Mother told him to say goodbye to his best friend, "But they're my three best friends for life!" (p.8). Here, Bruno shows his rejection of leaving Berlin. He knows that leaving his house in Berlin also means he left his best friends who also lived in Berlin.

Mother was also another character described to be unhappy with the move. Mother seems to be sad to leave the house in Berlin. The house they lived in Berlin was portrayed as a very beautiful house that made everyone felt comfortable to live there. When the family was forced to leave the house in Berlin, it can be concluded that they feel disappointed and unhappy.

“Mother sighed and looked around the room as if she might never see it again. It was a very beautiful house and had five floors in total, if you included the basement, where Cook made all the food and Maria and Lars sat at the table arguing with each other and calling each other names that you weren't supposed to use. And if you added in the little room at the top of the house with the slanted windows where Bruno could see right across Berlin if he stood up on his tiptoes and held onto the frame tightly” (p.6-7).

The quotation above proved that Mother was admiring the house that she has been living for years. She sighed when she realized she would leave the house

Moving out from Berlin is one of the reasons for loneliness experienced by Bruno, Gretel, and Mother. In this case, moving out from Berlin includes in dislocation. Rubeinsten & Shaver explain dislocation means transfer an individual or a group into a new place that is unfamiliar for them (1982, p.214). Here, related to the story in *TBiTSP* novel, the reason for loneliness for Bruno, Gretel, and Mother is dislocation because their family moved to *Out-With*, a new house located in an unfamiliar place for the whole family.

Rubeinsten and Shaver (1982, p.214) explained that forced isolation means someone has been severely cut off from his or her relationship with another person in a certain period. In *TBiTSP* novel, when the family lives in *Out-With*, this family is isolated because they live in a remote area with no neighbor. Moreover, the family can not leave the house if there is no important matter.

After moving out from their old house in Berlin, Bruno, Gretel, and Mother now lived in *Out-With*. This name first mentions in the novel by Gretel.

sentence of the quote explains that the house looks different than their old house, and Bruno does not even believe they would live there means the house was awful.

Besides the outside look from the house which was described as totally different from the house in Berlin, the author also described the inside of the house. The inside look was described with more details. *Out-With* has many differences with the old house, as explained in the quotation below.

“The house in Berlin was enormous, and even though he'd lived there for nine years he was still able to find nooks and crannies that he hadn't fully finished exploring yet. There were even whole rooms - such as Father's office, which was Out Of Bounds At All Times And No Exceptions - that he had barely been inside. However, the new house had only three floors: a top floor where all three bedrooms were and only one bathroom, a ground floor with a kitchen, a dining room and a new office for Father (which, he presumed, had the same restrictions as the old one), and a basement where the servants slept” (p.11-12)

Here, the quotations described the difference between the house in Berlin and the house called *Out-With*. The house in Berlin was big. It has five floors, including the basement, whereas the new house only has three floors including the basement. The different size of the house, of course, make the family feel not so comfortable. When someone was used to live in a large space and then forced to move to a smaller space, they would feel trapped.

Out-With was also portrayed as a house that is not well maintained. There were a few parts of the story which described the bad condition of the house.

loneliest place in the world. The middle of nowhere” (p.1213).

The quotations above explain how the condition around *Out-With*. The new house stood alone with no neighbors at all, which means there would be no family or friend to talk or play with. There was also nobody passing by the house and the area was very quiet. There were no shops along the way that can be seen near the house. The lack of other people around the house was also contributing to the loneliness feeling experienced by Bruno, Gretel, and Mother.

Because of the condition of the house and the surrounding area were not good, Bruno, Gretel, and Mother feel unhappy during their living in *Out-With*. After a few hours of their arrival, Bruno uttered his feeling about the moved by saying, “I think this was a bad idea” (p.14). Bruno also added, “This isn't home and it never will be” (p.16). This clearly explained Bruno’s feelings about living in *Out-With*.

The new house (*Out-With*) located in a mysterious place with no people and buildings around. This caused Bruno and Gretel to started to felt lonely after only a few days in *Out-With*. This condition makes this sibling shared their feelings towards each other, even though they do not like each other. Bruno says, “I miss Karl and Daniel and Martin” (p. 26), while Gretel also says, “And I miss Hilda and Isobel and Louise” (p.26). Bruno and Gretel missed the feeling of having friends. In Berlin, Bruno and Gretel had best friends from school who liked to play with them around Berlin or at their house. In their new house, they only had each other to talk about their feelings because other people are adults.

Besides the fact that the family now was living in a place that was isolated, which makes the children unhappy, Bruno and Gretel now forced by their parents to continue school to study. “Father decided it was time for the children to return to their studies” (p.96), here in this quote, both, Mother and Father were agreed that the children must continued studying even they lived in a house that was near with no school at all. For this reason, Bruno’s and Gretel’s parents decided the best solution was to have homeschooling. “... a tutor should come to the house every day and filled their mornings and afternoons with lessons” (p.96).

Homeschooling was not the best choice made by Mother and Father. Bruno and Gretel start to feel more lonely and frustrated because of this. The children used to go to school with many friends in class, while homeschooling makes them do their study with only a teacher and two students, "... it seemed ridiculous to Bruno that school should take place when there were only two students to teach ..." (p.96). This new school situation was not what Bruno and Gretel expected to be.

Bruno and Gretel now did not attend a normal school: they continue their studies from home. This reason makes both of the children craved more for other existed of people of the same age. And even after busy with homework from their homeschooling' teacher, Herr Liszt, Bruno, and Gretel still feels alone. The narrator explains Bruno's feeling, "... he no longer had any friends to play with ..." (p.98-99). Gretel also describes that she feels bored and lonely during their spare time because she had no friend at all, "I've got nothing to do" (p.152).

Lived in *Out-With* was not fun at all, especially since Bruno, Gretel, and Mother were not allowed to leave the house, and even if this rule was not exist. They still have nothing to do outside the house. The author did not describe this rule directly, but it could be seen from the plot.

In the story, there always be more than one guard to look after *Out-With* and everyone inside it. Every activity in *Out-With* always in control. There, even every door in front of each room had one soldier, "... when the door creaked open, but that had turned out to be the unfriendly young soldier who had stared at Bruno without any warmth in his eyes" (p.42). This rule also can be seen with Bruno's act. Every time Bruno leaves *Out-With*, he always used the back door and always did it secretly.

Living in *Out-With* is miserable. Bruno was lonely since he lived in *Out-With*. He had no friends at all. Bruno only spent his spare time to play with a swing in the front yard, which his mother later forbids because he fell and got several scars, "... he was happily installed inside the centre of the tyre and swinging back and forth ...". Bruno plays with the swing even the swing is not comfortable because he had nothing left to do, "... he was ignoring the fact that it was one of the most uncomfortable swings he had ever been on in his life" (p.77). He also spent his time reading books, which later he left because he already read most of the books he had, "Bruno had read enough books" (p.105).

Gretel was also feeling lonely in *Out-With*. One of the main factors was because she had no one to play with, “Here she had no one at all except her

3.3. The Descriptions of Characters' Ways to Overcome Loneliness

Here, the researcher discusses the reactions towards loneliness in each character. The researcher links the reasons of loneliness directly with the theory of loneliness from Rubeinsten and Shaver (1982).

3.3.1. Bruno's Ways to Overcome Loneliness

Bruno is one of the characters that positively react towards loneliness. Based on the theory, the reaction towards loneliness in Bruno's character is Active solitude and social contact.

3.3.1.1. Active Solitude

Rubeinsten and Shaver (1982, p.215) states that some people who experience loneliness can have positive activities as the reaction. Active solitude can make the person forget about being lonely and find happiness in themselves.

3.3.1.1.1 Reading Adventure Book

In dealing with the loneliness he felt, Bruno had tried to overcome his feelings by reading a book. When one afternoon, Gretel visits Bruno's room, Bruno did not want to get bothered by her. He was trying to read the book that he

The act of doing forbidden exploration done by Bruno in the story was included active solitude. It means the person who feels lonely will choose to do positive activities (1982, p.215). Bruno's character was doing active solitude by doing forbidden exploration, which refers to positive activity: it just seems did not right because this activity is not allowed.

Based on Rubeinsten and Shaver (1982), social contact was the best way for people who experience loneliness. The theory states that when people do social interaction, they will not feel lonely at all. In this research, Bruno did social contact in terms of his reaction towards loneliness.

At the beginning of the story, Bruno and Gretel did not like each other. Both Bruno and Gretel still do not have good relations until at the end of the story, but it was better than before. After the move to *Out-With*, Bruno, and Gretel had more conversation about something personal, while in Berlin, they rarely talk to each other if it's not about mocking one another.

[illegible]

“Bruno was sure that it would have made a lot more sense if they had left Gretel behind in Berlin to look after the house because she was nothing but trouble” (p.21).

Here, the quotations above explain that Bruno did not like Gretel at all. Earlier, he believed that Gretel was just a Hopeless Case. Bruno believed that moving out with Gretel will only bring him nothing but misery. He even thought that it would be better to left Gretel in Berlin if the family wants to move somewhere else. This shows how much Bruno did not like Gretel.

After the move, everything change. The loneliness makes Bruno have a better relationship with Gretel. Bruno was the one who starts the conversation with Gretel. Bruno liked to discussed something with her sister even though Gretel was not the best one to discuss something compared to his old friends Karl, Daniel, and Martin. The conversation always goes well between Bruno and Gretel when Bruno was the one who starts the conversation. If Gretel is the conversation starter, Bruno still used to ignore her and did not want to get bothered by her. This was one of Bruno's struggle to overcome his loneliness. He tried to had a good conversation with her sister.

"I don't like it here," he said for the hundredth time.

"I know you don't," said Gretel. "But there's nothing we can do about it, is there?" (p.26) "I hate the rain."

“I hate the rain too,” (p.153)

The quotations above show that Bruno and Gretel could have a good conversation even they did not like each other before. The first quotation happened when Bruno feels tired of the living condition in *Out-With*. After Bruno uttered his feeling, Gretel tried to respond to him in a good way. The second quotations happened when the rain was pouring. They share feelings about rains in

Having a good conversation with Gretel was includes in social contact. The theory states that social contact means the person who experienced loneliness will did interaction with another person (1982, p.216). Here, the reaction towards loneliness in Bruno's character was social contact because he decided to had a good conversation with her sister, Gretel.

Maria was the maid in Bruno's house. She works for Bruno's family since the family lived in Berlin. Bruno's family usually talked with her only when they need something related to Maria's job as a maid. In the family, even Bruno, who was considered polite to all workers in his house, he did not use to talk much with Maria. However, this behavior change after the family moved to *Out-With*. He began to have a conversation with Maria about things that they never used to discuss together.

[illegible]

“What do you think of all this, Maria?”

“All what?” she asked.

“This,” he said as if it was the most obvious thing in the world. “Coming to a place like this. Don't you think we've made a big mistake?” (p.17)

Here, Bruno was asking about Maria's opinion about the new house. The quotations explain that Bruno did not like the house at all. He thinks moving to *OutWith* is a mistake made by his father. In this conversation, Bruno even wanted Maria to agree with his statement that moving out was a mistake. Bruno never did something like this to Maria before. He asked for Maria's opinion even she just a maid that her opinion would give no impact at all.

Bruno liked to talk about his feeling to Maria. He talked about his feelings about the new house and even about his personal view of father's job to Maria. This probably happened because Maria always listens to Bruno and always gave him a positive response. Maria always told Bruno that he should not complain and feel blessed for everything.

“He felt as if he was about to cry again but stopped himself, not wanting to look like a baby in front of Maria. He looked around the room without fully lifting his eyes from the ground, trying to see whether there was anything of interest to be found. There wasn't. Or there didn't seem to be” (p.19).

Here, the quotation above describes how Bruno's condition after he shares his feeling with Maria. Bruno was sad about the condition of where he lived now. He talked about it to Maria, and about to cry after he finished his story. From this quote, it could be concluded that Bruno trusts Maria more than everyone in the house. He never talked about anything until he wanted to cry as much as when he

talked to Maria. This kind of conversation never happened before in Berlin. Having a deep conversation with Maria was one of Bruno's decision to overcome his loneliness.

Bruno chooses to have deep conversations with Maria. This activity is included in social contact (1982, p.216). The theory states that social contact means the person who experienced loneliness will do interaction with another person (1982, p.216). So, a deep conversation is another social contact that Bruno did as the result of experienced loneliness.

3.3.1.2.3 Having Conversation with Pavel

Pavel is one of the workers in Bruno's family. He is the cook and waiter in the house. When Bruno fell from the swing, Pavel saw the accident from the kitchen while he was peeling the potatoes, "Pavel, the waiter who had helped him find the tyre, had been peeling potatoes while standing at the window and had seen the accident take place" (p.78-79).

As the one who saw Bruno fell, Pavel immediately helps Bruno. Pavel carried Bruno from the yard back to the house, “Pavel carried him across the lawn and back towards the house, taking him into the kitchen and settling him on one of the wooden chairs” (p.79). He then cleaned Bruno's wound and told Bruno to stop moving for a while.

When Bruno was finished treated by Pavel, Bruno opened the conversation with Pavel. Bruno keeps talking about his wound and how worried

In the beginning, Bruno is not allowed to do any kind of exploration, and now besides he did the exploration, he also started a conversation with Shmuel, a stranger. Bruno and Shmuel then shared many stories. They become easily related because they had the same age and perhaps had the same view towards almost anything. The same age of these two boys was described by the author when Bruno asks Shmuel his birthday, then Bruno answered Shmuel by saying, "... my birthday is April the fifteenth too. And was born in nineteen thirty-four. We were born on the same day" (p.109).

Since the day Bruno met Shmuel, Bruno decided to become a friend with Shmuel. Later on, Bruno liked to visit Shmuel almost every day. Bruno liked to bring Shmuel snacks. For this reason, Shmuel wanted to hug Bruno if they could, sadly, both of them were separated by the wire fence, "... just to thank him for all his many kindnesses, and his gifts of food" (p.206).

This friendship occurred because Bruno wanted to have a friend to overcome his loneliness. Although they could not play anything physically, Bruno liked to visit Shmuel and share each other's stories. When he had Shmuel, Bruno

feels happy, "... his afternoon conversations with Shmuel filled him with happiness" (p.188). If Bruno lived in Berlin, he will not dare to talk with a stranger, especially the one who lived behind the wire fence.

Making friends with Shmuel is includes in social contact. The theory states that social contact means the person who experienced loneliness will do interaction with another person (1982, p.216). One of the reactions towards loneliness in

Bruno's character is social contact because he decides to make friend with Shmuel even Shmuel live in a place behind the wire fence.

3.3.2. Gretel's Ways to Overcome Loneliness

In this research, Gretel also reacts positively towards loneliness that she experienced. Gretel's reactions are social contact and active solitude based on Rubeinsten and Shaver's theory (1982).

3.3.2.1 Social Contact

Based on Rubeinsten and Shaver (1982), social contact is the best way for people who experience loneliness. The theory states that when people do social interaction, they will not feel lonely at all. In this research, Gretel did social contact in terms of her reaction towards loneliness.

3.3.2.1.1 Being Friend with Lieutenant Kotler

Gretel was another character beside Bruno, who experienced loneliness after moving to *Out-With*. One of Gretel's ways to overcome her loneliness was by having a conversation with Lieutenant Kotler, one of his father's soldiers who currently lived in *Out-With* with the family.

Lieutenant Kotler was the only young officer who lived in *Out-With*, “Lieutenant Kotler was the young officer ...” (p.70). When Bruno first saw his appearance in the house, Bruno asked Maria about him, and Maria answered, “One of your father's soldiers, I suppose” (p.18). The author of the novel did not describe Lieutenant Kotler's specific job in the house, but he seems to be more like Father's assistance rather than another soldier who describes as a guard in the house. This conclusion was made after knowing that Lieutenant Kotler always joins dinner with the family when other soldiers were not invited, “Bruno was disappointed to find that Lieutenant Kotler was joining him, Mother, Father and Gretel for dinner” (p. 142).

In the novel, Bruno used to see Gretel talking with Lieutenant Kotler, "...Gretel speaking with Lieutenant Kotler ..." (p.70). One day Bruno saw Gretel have a conversation with Lieutenant Kotler, which seems to be deep, "Lieutenant Kotler was deep in conversation with Gretel" (p.72). Bruno also used to see Gretel look very happy when she had a conversation with Lieutenant Kotler, "...and whatever he was saying must have been terribly funny because she was laughing loudly ..." (p.72).

In the present time, it is clear that there will be no teenager can get the title Lieutenant. However, *TBiTSP* is a novel that used World War 2 as the setting of time. As it can tell, in World War 2, Germany hires so many of their citizen to be the soldier and join the war. Harald Stutte and Günter Lucks, both are a historian from Germany, has written a book about this. The book entitles *Hitler Vergessene Kinderarmee* (2014) explains that Hitler has hired teenagers around 16 as the youngest to join the army. For this reason, even the novel *TBiTSP* did not describe Lieutenant Kotler's age, but the previous paragraph about Gretel, who said that she would be a teenager just like Lieutenant Kotler, must be true.

[illegible]

Here, the friendship between Gretel and Lieutenant Kotler happened because Gretel felt lonely in *Out-With*. Back in Berlin, Gretel would rather choose to be friends with girls, such as her best friends, Hilda, Loiuise, and Issobel. She would never get the idea to befriend one of his father's soldiers. This friendship was one of Gretel's ways to overcome her loneliness during her living in *Out-With*.

3.3.2.2 Active Solitude

Rubeinsten & Shaver (1982, p.215) states that some people who experience loneliness can have positive activities as the reaction. Active solitude can make the person forget about being lonely and find happiness in themselves. Here, Gretel also do active solitude as the reaction towards her loneliness.

After the time goes by in *Out-With*, Gretel was so much in love with studying history and geography. Gretel started to become obsessed with it. Studying history and geography has become a new hobby. This new hobby replaces her old hobby that was playing and arranging dolls. After almost a year in *Out-With*, she did not have dolls anymore in her room, “For one thing there wasn't a single doll in sight” (p.180).

Her interests in history can also be seen in her room decoration. The only decoration in her room is things that are related to history and geography. One day, when Bruno comes into Gretel's room, he was shocked by what he saw. Gretel's room was decorated with maps of Europe and other things related to it, "... she had hung up maps of Europe that Father had given her ..." (p.180). Gretel constantly learning geography by marking some places that she has read in the maps, "...and every day she put little pins into them and moved the pins around constantly after consulting the daily newspaper" (p.180).

Meanwhile, for her interest in history, she likes to read newspapers and books. These acts did not state by the author in the book but can be concluded from the storyline after reading some chapters. Gretel's love with history makes her finally understand about surrounding area in *Out-With*. Gretel even understands that the place beyond the fence seen from the house was a place for the Jews. Her knowledge about it was shown when she had a conversation with Bruno.

“The fence isn't there to stop us from going over there. It's to stop them from coming over here.”

“But why?” he asked.

“Because they have to be kept together,” explained Gretel. “With their families, you mean?”

“Well, yes, with their families. But with their own kind too.”

“What do you mean, their own kind?” Gretel sighed and shook her head. “With the other Jews, Bruno. Didn't you know that? That's why they have to be kept together. They can't mix with us.”

“Jews,” said Bruno, testing the word out. He quite liked the way it sounded. “Jews,” he repeated. “All the people over that side of the fence are Jews.”

“Yes, that's right,” said Gretel. (p.182)

The conversation between Gretel and Bruno above occurred when Bruno asked Gretel about why there was a community living inside a fence. This makes Bruno wonder because it was the only place where people lived beside their house. Gretel then answered Bruno's question and explained why there were people who lived in a fence and who were the people inside it.

Here, it can be concluded that from the loneliness that she experienced, Gretel now becomes interested in history and geography. She is interested in history and geography after she insisted on learning about it almost every day. She also chooses to make herself busy with studying those two subjects more and more again. If she still lived in Berlin, she would probably still more interested in playing and arranging dolls rather than studying.

The next reactions that occurred in Gretel's characters explained above are studying history and geography. This act is included in active solitude. The

definition of active solitude is the person who feels lonely will choose to do positive activities (1982, p.215). The reaction towards loneliness in Gretel's character is active solitude because she chooses to study on two topics that are obligatory in her study.

3.3.3. Mother's Ways to Overcome Loneliness

Mother is the only character who reacts differently compared to Bruno and Gretel. Here, she negatively react towards loneliness. Based on the theory, the reaction towards loneliness in Mother's character is Sad Passivity.

3.3.3.1. Sad Passivity

Sad passivity is a negative behavior that occurs after someone experiences loneliness. When people's behavior is in negative form such, it was called as sad passivity. Mother was a character who did sad passivity as her reaction towards loneliness.

3.3.3.1.1. Sleeping All-day

Mother was another character who experienced loneliness beside Bruno and Gretel after leaving Berlin. This happened because, in *Out-With*, Mother has no friend, and her activities seem to be more boring rather than everyone in the family. Mother has nothing to do because she literally has no housework, and she did not take care of the children too. The only activity that could entertain Mother from her loneliness were reading books and leaving *Out-With* on a special

occasion. Unfortunately, this activity does not satisfy her and still left her with a lonely feeling. This then becomes the reason for Mother to choose to sleeping all day.

Sleeping all day is one of Mother's ways to overcome her loneliness. In the beginning, she was described that she only was taking a nap. Many times in the book, Mother's character came up with the description that she was taking an afternoon nap, "Mother was having one of her afternoon naps" (p.150). Another example was when Gretel was screaming after she realizes her hair had a tiny egg on it: Mother was also described that she was taking a nap, "... the sound of Gretel breaking into a piercing scream; one that woke Mother ..." (p.183-184)

worse and worse by day. “Mother kept very quiet during the day and was having an awful lot more of her afternoon naps, some of them not even in the afternoon, but before lunch, and Bruno was worried ...” (p.188). The quotation described that Mother gave extra duration to her afternoon naps. The amount of duration she spent sleeping was awful: it could mean she nearly sleeps all day.

Here, sleeping all day was one of Mother's ways to overcome her loneliness. In the beginning, Mother only sleeps during the afternoon, which described as taking an afternoon nap. Sadly, this did not get an impact on her. She then decided just to add extra time for sleeping, which was nearly whole daylight. The living condition around Mother has made her escape the loneliness from taking naps into

Mother decided to sleep all day. Here, sleeping all day was included in sad passivity. The theory explains that sad passivity someone is become passive and had negative behavior (1982, p.215). The reaction towards loneliness in Mother's character is sad passivity because she only chooses to sleep all-day without doing other activities, which refer to passive behavior.

3.3.3.1.2 Complaining All the Time

Another reaction that occurred in Mother's character was complaining all the time. Indeed, no one was happy living in *Out-With*, but Mother is the one who did not feel bad to utter her feeling to Father. Moving to *Out-With* happened after Father got a promotion in his job. Even he got a better position now, the consequence that was living in *Out-With* seems to be unequal. This was the reason

that she can not live there any longer, "Just horrible. I can't stand it anymore" (p.178).

Bruno also heard that Mother was blamed Father. She blamed Father because Father's job did not force everyone to lived in *Out-With*, but Father manages to make the whole family live together there. Mother was complaining by said, "No, this is your assignment" (p.178). She kept saying that it was not the responsibility of the whole family, "Your assignment, not ours. You stay if you want to" (p.178).

Here, complaining all the time is one of Mother's reaction towards loneliness that she felt. Mother complained about how miserable it was to live in *Out-With*. She wanted to live back in Berlin. When the family lives in Berlin Mother is happy and never complains about anything. However, this changes after Mother felt lonely and uncomfortable with living in *Out-With*.

Another act that Mother did was complaining all the time. This included in sad passivity. Here, sad passivity means someone is become passive and had negative behavior (1982, p.215). Related to the story, the reaction towards loneliness in Mother's character was sad passivity because she complained to Father every time they met, which refers to negative behavior.

The result of this study shows that for Bruno's character, the author describes him as the main character, the youngest in the family, got bully from his sister and sister's friends, have best friends at school, interested in the adventure world and polite. His loneliness describes directly and indirectly through the quotations. For Gretel's character, the author describes her as Bruno's biological sister, who has a nickname 'Hopeless Case', loves dolls, smart at school, has a bad attitude. Her loneliness describes directly and indirectly quotations. For Mother's character, the author describes her as love her children, always nurtures, always knows what to do, and has great empathy. The loneliness characteristics of Mother describes indirectly in the novel.

The ways to overcome loneliness in Bruno's character are; reading adventure book (active solitude, 1982, p.215), having good conversation with Gretel (social contact, 1982, p.216), having deep conversation with Maria (social contact, 1982, p.216), making a swing (active solitude, 1982, p.215), having conversation with Pavel (social contact, 1982, p.216), doing forbidden exploration (active solitude, 1982, p.215), and making friend with Shmuel (social contact, 1982, p.216).

